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Letter dated 14 August 2006 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Timor-Leste to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour, on instructions from my Government, to submit to you a copy of a letter signed by José Ramos-Horta, Prime Minister of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste, on the executive policing authority of the United Nations (see annex).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Sofia **Borges**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex to the letter dated 14 August 2006 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Timor-Leste to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I wish to refer to my previous letter addressed to you (S/2006/620), dated 4 August, requesting the establishment of a robust, multidimensional and integrated peacekeeping mission in Timor-Leste.

The recent incidents in Timor-Leste have left the country with a dysfunctional national police force. National police officers are almost non-existent in the capital, Dili. While the multinational military and police forces have largely contributed to restoring calm after the recent tragic incidents in Timor-Leste, the situation still remains very fragile. To date, an estimated 70,000 internally displaced persons are living in several camps in Dili. The citizens are afraid and lack the sense of security needed to return to their homes. I am convinced that a strong and robust United Nations police force could help to resolve this human catastrophe.

In the light of the above-mentioned concerns, I look forward to the establishment of a new United Nations mission on 21 August 2006 with a United Nations police force component. I am therefore agreeable to the proposal contained in your report (S/2006/628), stating that the United Nations police force will have executive policing authority. Such authority would be crucial in ensuring the reinstitution of the national police and in restoring the confidence of the people of Timor-Leste.

(*Signed*) José **Ramos-Horta**
Prime Minister
Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste